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ABSTRACT

In 1987, a study was conducted by Johnson County Community College (Kansas) in cooperation with local public school districts to determine the career and educational interests of the county's public high school students. Surveys were administered in class to 11,477 freshmen, sophomores, juniors, and seniors, requesting information on high school and work experiences, high school vocational/technical program interests, future plans, and college/university preferences. Study findings, based on a 68% response rate, included the following: (1) over 90% of all respondents gave a positive evaluation to their high school preparation; (2) over 50% of the respondents indicated that they needed more help in "gaining practical work experience in career field," "developing effective learning strategies," "securing scholarships or financial aid," and "selecting a career or college major"; (3) over 60% described their individual high school program as preparation for college, while 7% saw it as preparation for a job; (4) almost 60% worked part-time while in high school; (5) 47% of the students who earned mostly A's and 71% of students who earned mostly F's held jobs while in high school; (6) more males than females held jobs while in high school; (7) 65% of the female students and 56% of the males planned to attend college full-time during the first year after high school; and (8) about half of the students who indicated an intention to attend a specific college chose an out-of-state institution. The survey instrument is appended. (UCM)

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Career and Educational Interests of Johnson County Public High School Students

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Office of Institutional Research
Johnson County Community College
September 1987

JC 880 043

INTRODUCTION

During the spring of 1987, a committee representing all public school districts and the community college in Johnson County agreed to sponsor the second joint research project designed to determine the career and educational interests of the county's public high school students. The Office of Institutional Research at Johnson County Community College was charged with overall responsibility for implementing the research design in conjunction with representatives from each of the public school districts.

The "Career and Educational Interest Survey" was administered to 11,477 freshmen, sophomores, juniors and seniors in public schools throughout Johnson County during the last week in April. This response represented approximately 68 percent of the 16,950 public high school students officially enrolled in these four grades in Johnson County public schools as of September 1986. It was the intention of the research design to survey the total population of Johnson County public high school students. The sample actually surveyed was the result of absenteeism or non-enrollment in the specific classes in which the survey was administered, although these classes were selected specifically to attempt to include as much of the total population of students as possible.

Section I provides an overview of respondents; high school currently attended (or to be attended next year for some freshmen), grade level, grades, program of study and sex. Respondent perceptions of current high school and work experiences are in Section II, while Section III details high school vocational/technical program interests. Sections IV and V provide insights into future plans of Johnson County high school students, including college or university preferences and reasons for these preferences.

Brief narrative remarks summarizing results precede each of the five sections. Detailed findings for all 12 high schools in Johnson County, including verbatim comments, were provided for each district in separate reports.

Questions and comments regarding this study should be directed to:

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SUMMARY OF RESULTS

* Over 90 percent of respondents gave a positive evaluation of their high school preparation. This was true of both males and females.

* Although the area in which the largest percentage of all respondents felt more help was needed was in gaining practical work experience in their chosen career field, the area in which the greatest number of respondents felt more help was needed was in developing effective learning strategies. The "basics" (math, reading and writing) were at the bottom of the list.

* More than 60 percent of all respondents described their individual high school program as preparation for college, and about 7 percent described it as preparation for a job (up from 5.6 percent in 1983).

* Almost 60 percent of all respondents worked part-time while in high school. Over 80 percent of all seniors worked, but less than 30 percent of freshmen held jobs.

* Less than half of all A students held jobs; over 70 percent of F students worked. More males than females held jobs while in high school.

* Respondents worked an average of 20.5 hours per week. Students earning C or below tended to work more hours than students earning higher grades.

* Over 65 percent of all females planned to go to college full-time the first year after high school, compared to 56 percent of all males. This reflects a slight increase in female interest and a decrease in male interest compared to 1983 findings.

* The percent planning to go to college full-time the first year after high school increased with grade level; nearly 70 percent of seniors planned to go on full-time while only 54.7 percent of freshmen had such plans.

* About half of survey respondents who named a specific school indicated a desire to attend college outside of Kansas.

* Current high school students are educationally ambitious. Four out of five hope to attain a bachelor's degree or higher, with almost half hoping to earn a graduate degree.

* About 20 percent of survey respondents were either already enrolled or interested in enrolling in a high school vocational/technical program, down from 30.1 percent indicating interest in 1983. An additional 28.1 percent were undecided about enrolling in such a program, about the same as 1983.

* The most popular occupational field into which respondents would eventually like to build careers was business, the same career field preferred by respondents to the 1983 survey.

SECTION I

PROFILE OF RESPONDING STUDENTS

Table 1 Profile of Responding Students

Table 2 Grade Level by High School

Table 3 High School Grades

Table 4 Description of High School Program--by School

Profile of Responding Students

Tables 1 through 4 provide detailed information with regard to high school, sex, grade level, grades, and individual program of study. Highlights were:

* About three out of five respondents attended Shawnee Mission high schools. This was down from 71.8 percent of respondents to the 1983 high school survey who attended Shawnee Mission schools.

* Nearly one in five respondents attended Olathe schools. This was up from 14.2 percent of respondents to a similar survey conducted in 1983.

* Over half of all respondents indicated they earned grades of B or above in high school.

* Less than 2 percent of respondents indicated they earned grades of mostly D's or F's in high school.

* About 7 percent of all respondents described their individual high school program as preparation for a job, up from 5.6 percent in 1983.

* Gardner/Edgerton and Olathe North were the only high schools where more than 10 percent of respondents described their individual high school program as preparation for a job.

* Over 60 percent of all respondents described their individual high school program as preparation for college, a slight increase over 1983 findings.

* Gardner/Edgerton, Shawnee Mission North, and Spring Hill High Schools were the only three where less than half of respondents described their individual high school program as preparation for college.

Table 1

PROFILE OF RESPONDENTS

	Number of Responses	Percent
Sex		
Male	5,639	50.3%
Female	5,547	49.5
Unknown	291	.2
Total Respondents	11,477	100.0%
Grade Level		
Freshman	3,127	27.2%
Sophomore	3,106	27.1
Junior	2,921	25.5
Senior	2,292	20.0
Unknown	31	.3
High School		
Blue Valley District (subtotal)	1,098	9.6%
Blue Valley	397	3.5
Blue Valley North	701	6.1
DeSoto	417	3.6%
Gardner	447	3.9%
Olathe District (subtotal)	2,182	19.0%
Olathe North	1,216	10.6
Olathe South	966	8.4
Shawnee Mission District (subtotal)	7,031	61.5%
Shawnee Mission East	1,222	10.7
Shawnee Mission North	1,043	9.1
Shawnee Mission Northwest	1,496	13.1
Shawnee Mission South	1,522	13.3
Shawnee Mission West	1,748	15.3
Spring Hill	263	2.3%
Unknown	39	.1%

Table 2

GRADE LEVEL BY HIGH SCHOOL

	Freshmen		Sophomores		Juniors		Seniors	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Blue Valley	120	30.2%	103	25.9%	110	27.7%	63	15.9%
Blue Valley North	212	30.2	219	31.2	147	21.0	123	17.5
DeSoto	101	24.2	99	23.7	115	27.6	102	24.5
Gardner	117	26.2	116	26.0	112	25.1	102	22.8
Olathe North	318	26.2	340	28.0	317	26.1	241	19.8
Olathe South	365	37.8	211	21.9	181	18.8	208	21.6
Shawnee Mission East	330	27.0	301	24.6	343	28.1	247	20.2
Shawnee Mission North	345	33.1	294	28.2	218	20.9	185	17.7
Shawnee Mission Northwest	391	26.2	429	28.7	415	27.8	259	17.3
Shawnee Mission South	336	22.1	391	25.7	425	27.9	369	24.3
Shawnee Mission West	410	23.5	515	29.5	479	27.4	343	19.6
Spring Hill	76	28.9	86	32.7	55	20.9	45	17.1

Table 3

HIGH SCHOOL GRADES

	Number of Responses	Percent
Mostly A's	1,429	12.5%
Mostly A's and B's	3,139	27.4
Mostly B's	1,296	11.3
Mostly B's and C's	3,141	27.4
Mostly C's	1,130	9.8
Mostly C's and D's	924	8.1
Mostly D's	126	1.1
Mostly F's	62	.5
Unknown	230	2.0

Table 4

DESCRIPTION OF HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM
-BY SCHOOL-

	Number of Responses	Prepare for College	Prepare for Life	Prepare for Job	Other/ Unknown
Blue Valley	397	66.2%	17.4%	6.8%	9.5%
Blue Valley North	701	72.3	16.5	3.6	7.5
DeSoto	417	60.2	26.1	8.2	5.5
Gardner/Edgerton	447	46.8	37.6	12.3	3.4
Olathe North	1,216	59.4	23.8	10.5	6.2
Olathe South	966	62.5	21.0	8.4	8.0
SM East	1,222	66.0	20.7	3.9	9.4
SM North	1,043	48.0	32.4	8.4	11.1
SM Northwest	1,496	62.8	23.5	6.2	7.5
SM South	1,522	68.1	19.6	5.3	7.1
SM West	1,748	62.2	24.4	7.5	5.9
Spring Hill	263	44.5	36.1	8.7	10.6
Unknown	39				
Totals	11,477	61.5%	23.8%	7.1%	7.7%

SECTION II

HIGH SCHOOL AND WORK EXPERIENCES

Table 5 Evaluation of High School Preparation and Areas in Which Respondents Felt More Help Was Needed

Table 6 Evaluation of High School Preparation and Areas in Which Respondents Felt More Help Was Needed--by Grades Earned in High School

Table 7 High School Work Experience

Table 8 High School Work Experience--by Sex of Respondents

Table 9 High School Work Experience--by Grade Level

Table 10 High School Work Experience--by Grades Earned in High School

High School and Work Experiences

Tables 5 and 6 describe respondents' evaluations of their high school preparation and areas in which more help was needed. Tables 7 through 10 detail respondents' high school work experience. This information is provided by sex, grade level, and grades earned in school. Highlights of these findings were:

* Slightly more than 90 percent of respondents gave a positive evaluation of their high school preparation. This was true of both males and females.

* Students earning mostly F's were the only group where less than half of respondents rated the evaluation of high school preparation positively. There was no appreciable difference between ratings by grade level.

* Although the area in which the largest percentage of all respondents felt more help was needed was in gaining practical work experience in their chosen career field, the area in which the greatest number of respondents felt more help was needed was in developing effective learning strategies. The "basics" (math, reading and writing) were at the bottom of the list.

* Almost 60 percent of all respondents worked part-time while in high school.

* More males than females held jobs while in high school.

* While less than half of all A students held a job while in high school, over 70 percent of F students worked.

* Students earning C and below tended to work more hours than students earning higher grades.

* The number who worked part-time consistently increased with age. Over 80 percent of all seniors worked part-time, while less than 30 percent of freshmen held jobs.

* The number of hours worked also tended to increase with age. Over 40 percent of seniors worked more than 20 hours per week.

* Respondents worked an average of 20.5 hours per week.

Table 5

EVALUATION OF HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION AND
AREAS IN WHICH RESPONDENTS FELT MORE HELP WAS NEEDED

	Number of Responses	Percent
Evaluation of high school preparation		
Very well prepared	1,740	15.2%
More than adequately prepared	2,905	25.3
Adequately prepared	5,687	49.6
Less than adequately prepared	787	6.9
Very poorly prepared	274	2.4
More than one response	29	.3
Unknown	55	.5
Areas in which respondents felt more help was needed		
Gaining practical work experience in career field	6,066	52.9%
Developing effective learning strategies (note-taking, study skills and habits, test-taking)	6,214	54.1
Securing scholarships or financial aid	6,153	53.6
Selecting a career or college major	5,799	50.5
Developing job-hunting and interviewing skills	5,479	47.7
Improving mathematics skills	5,337	46.5
Increasing reading speed and improving comprehension	4,701	41.0
Expressing ideas in writing	3,964	34.5

Table 6

EVALUATION OF HIGH SCHOOL PREPARATION AND
AREAS IN WHICH STUDENTS FELT MORE HELP WAS NEEDED
-BY GRADES EARNED IN HIGH SCHOOL-

	Number of Responses	Mostly A	Mostly A & B	Mostly B	Mostly B & C	Mostly C	Mostly C & D	Mostly D	Mostly F
Evaluation of high school preparation									
Very well	1.740	26.8%	20.4%	13.3%	10.9%	8.2%	8.4%	4.0%	3.2%
More than adequate	2,905	35.9	32.9	27.5	20.5	16.8	11.5	4.8	8.1
Adequate	5,687	31.7	41.0	50.8	58.3	61.9	61.8	54.0	25.8
Less than adequate	787	2.7	4.4	6.6	7.9	9.8	11.8	19.0	25.8
Very poor	274	2.2	.8	1.4	1.9	2.9	6.0	16.7	33.9
Unknown	84	.6	.5	.3	.5	.3	.5	1.6	3.2
Areas in which more help was needed									
Developing effective learning strategies (note/test taking, study skills, etc.)	6,214	34.7%	49.7%	56.3%	60.7%	63.8%	62.2%	65.1%	56.5%
Securing scholarships/financial aid	6,153	65.3	61.0	52.0	49.7	46.4	37.9	49.2	48.4
Gaining practical work experience in student's career field	6,066	55.6	55.8	51.9	51.1	52.7	49.8	46.0	48.4
Selecting a career or college major	5,799	58.2	52.6	52.1	48.7	46.2	43.8	46.0	46.8
Developing job-hunting/ interviewing skills	5,479	52.6	50.8	47.8	43.8	46.0	46.5	49.2	48.4
Improving mathematics skills	5,337	25.2	40.4	49.2	54.6	55.3	57.6	58.7	54.8
Increasing reading speed and comprehension	4,701	41.9	38.9	40.4	41.6	41.5	44.6	47.6	38.7
Expressing ideas in writing	3,964	34.1	33.4	35.2	35.5	36.0	34.0	37.3	41.9

Table 7

HIGH SCHOOL WORK EXPERIENCE

	Number of Responses	Percent
Description of high school work experience		
Worked at part-time job while in high school	6,706	58.4%
Have not worked while in high school	4,473	39.0
Unknown	298	2.6
Hours worked per week		
1 - 10 hours	798	11.9%
11 - 20	3,035	45.3
21 - 30	1,746	26.0
31 - 40	498	7.4
Over 40	97	1.4
Unknown	532	7.9
Where employed*		
Eating or drinking establishments (restaurants, fast food places, donut or ice cream shops, etc.)	2,427	38.4%
Retail stores (except auto-related)	1,927	30.5
Indoor service related (video rental or arcade, dry cleaners, athletic clubs, theatres, banking, etc.)	842	13.3
Personal service-related (child care, elderly care, housework, etc.)	343	5.4
Outdoor service related (lawn service, parks & rec. dept. jobs, amusement parks, trash disposal, etc.)	305	4.8
Auto related sales or service	181	2.9
Construction	89	1.4
Hotel or motel related	77	1.2
Work for parents or have own business	63	1.0
Mass media related (anything with radio, TV or newspapers including paper delivery)	58	.9
Educational service related (teaching or aid)	47	.7
Farming	40	.6
Manufacturing	33	.5
Unspecified, such as "odd jobs"	159	2.5
Other	482	7.6

* Multiple response item; numbers and percentages are not additive

Table 8

HIGH SCHOOL WORK EXPERIENCE
-BY SEX OF RESPONDENTS-

	Number of Responses	Males	Females
Description of high school work experience			
Worked at part-time job	6,706	63.2%	55.4%
Have not worked while in high school	4,473	35.7	43.8
Unknown	298	1.1	.8
Hours worked per week			
1 - 10 hours	798	10.4%	13.6%
11 - 20	3,035	41.1	50.6
21 - 30	1,746	29.0	22.6
31 - 40	498	9.4	5.1
Over 40	97	1.9	.9
Unknown	532	8.2	7.2

Table 9

HIGH SCHOOL WORK EXPERIENCE
-BY GRADE LEVEL-

	Number of Responses	Freshmen	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors
Worked	6,706	29.2%	54.2%	75.0%	83.6%
Did not work	4,473	67.6	44.1	22.4	14.4
Unknown	298	3.2	1.7	2.6	2.1
Hours worked per week					
1 - 10 hours	798	24.4%	13.3%	10.2%	6.7%
11 - 20	3,035	38.0	44.2	48.5	45.8
21 - 30	1,746	14.2	25.4	26.8	31.3
31 - 40	498	5.9	6.4	6.5	10.1
Over 40	97	2.5	1.5	1.1	1.3
Unknown	532	14.9	9.2	6.8	4.8

Table 10

HIGH SCHOOL WORK EXPERIENCE
-BY GRADES EARNED IN HIGH SCHOOL-

	Number of Responses	Mostly A	Mostly A & B	Mostly B	Mostly B & C	Mostly C	Mostly C & D	Mostly D	Mostly F
High school work experience									
Worked while in high school	6,706	47.2%	54.3%	62.5%	64.7%	66.5%	63.5%	61.1%	71.0%
Have not worked while in high school	4,473	52.3	44.8	36.7	34.3	31.9	35.3	38.1	25.8
Unknown	298	.4	1.0	.8	1.1	1.6	1.2	.8	3.2
Hours worked per week									
1 - 10 hours	798	23.9%	14.9%	11.5%	9.8%	6.8%	5.5%	5.2%	6.8%
11 - 20	3,035	51.9	51.6	50.6	42.1	38.4	36.6	19.5	20.5
21 - 30	1,746	12.1	22.3	24.6	30.0	32.4	32.0	42.9	20.5
31 - 40	498	3.7	4.6	6.0	9.0	9.4	11.9	22.1	9.1
Over 40	97	1.6	.6	1.0	1.7	1.9	2.4	2.6	4.5
Unknown	532	6.8	6.0	6.3	7.3	11.0	11.6	7.8	38.6

SECTION III

HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAM INTERESTS

Table 11 Interest in Enrolling in a High School Vocational/Technical Program--by Sex of Respondents

Table 12 Interest in Enrolling in a High School Vocational/Technical Program--by School

Table 13 Interest in Enrolling in a High School Vocational/Technical Program--by Grade Level

Table 14 Interest in Enrolling in a High School Vocational/Technical Program--by Grades Earned in High School

Table 15 Vocational/Technical Programs in Which Respondents Would be Most Likely to Enroll While in High School

Table 16 Vocational/Technical Programs in Which Respondents Would be Most Likely to Enroll While in High School--by Sex of Respondents

Table 17 Vocational/Technical Programs in Which Respondents Would be Most Likely to Enroll While in High School--by Grade Level

Table 18 Vocational/Technical Programs in Which Respondents Would be Most Likely to Enroll While in High School--by Grades Earned in High School

High School Vocational/Technical Program Interests

The number of students interested in enrolling in a high school vocational/technical program and programs of most interest to respondents are reported in Tables 11 through 18. These data are presented by sex of respondents, by school, by grade level, and by grades earned. Highlights were:

* About 20 percent of survey respondents were either already enrolled or interested in enrolling in a high school vocational/technical program, down from 30.1 percent indicating interest in 1983. An additional 28.1 percent were undecided about enrolling in such a program, about the same as 1983.

* Interest in enrolling in a vocational/technical program was about the same for all four grade levels and for both sexes.

* Indecision about enrolling in a program tended to decrease with age, with over 37 percent of freshmen and only 17.2 percent of seniors undecided.

* Schools with the most students exhibiting an interest in enrolling in a vocational/technical program were:

Gardner/Edgerton	(28.6% interested, 32.9% undecided)
Shawnee Mission North	(24.8% interested, 34.9% undecided)
Shawnee Mission West	(22.5% interested, 30.4% undecided)
Shawnee Mission Northwest	(22.1% interested, 30.0% undecided)

* Students earning C or below indicated the most interest in enrolling in a vocational/technical program.

* Over half of all respondents indicated specific vocational/technical programs in which they might enroll while in high school:

  Nearly 25 percent selected either fashion merchandising, data processing/computer programming, or early childhood education. These were among the most popular choices in 1983 as well.

* Most of the respondents who indicated they were already enrolled in a vocational/technical program did not identify the program. However, the Olathe AVTS school officials indicate the top three programs (auto mechanics, graphic arts and carpentry) were the programs in which the most enrollment occurred for the 1986-87 school year.

Table 11

INTERESTED IN ENROLLING IN A
HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAM
-BY SEX OF RESPONDENTS-

	Number of Responses	Males	Females
Yes	2,130	20.0%	16.9%
No	5,630	50.1	48.5
Undecided	3,228	25.5	31.0
Already enrolled	269	2.5	2.2
Unknown	220	1.8	1.3

Table 12

INTERESTED IN ENROLLING IN A
HIGH SCHOOL VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAM
-BY SCHOOL-

	Number of Responses	Yes	No	Undecided	Already Enrolled	Other/ Unknown
Blue Valley	397	13.1%	58.2%	26.2%	.8%	1.8%
Blue Valley North	701	11.3	61.9	24.4	.9	1.6
DeSoto	417	17.7	55.4	23.0	3.4	.5
Gardner/Edgerton	447	28.6	28.4	32.9	9.2	.9
Olathe North	1,216	16.8	50.3	26.6	4.0	2.3
Olathe South	966	15.7	50.0	28.1	4.5	1.8
SM East	1,222	14.2	55.9	27.5	.9	1.6
SM North	1,043	24.8	36.4	34.9	1.8	2.0
SM Northwest	1,496	22.1	44.8	30.0	1.6	1.5
SM South	1,522	15.6	58.7	23.5	1.0	1.2
SM West	1,748	22.5	43.2	30.4	1.7	2.2
Spring Hill	263	17.1	47.5	28.1	4.6	2.7
Unknown	39	----	----	----	---	---
Totals	11,477	18.6%	49.1%	28.1%	2.3%	1.9%

Table 13

INTEREST IN ENROLLING IN A HIGH SCHOOL
VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAM
-BY GRADE LEVEL-

	Number of Responses	Freshmen	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors
Yes	2,130	19.2%	19.3%	19.8%	15.5%
No	5,630	41.9	45.2	51.5	61.4
Undecided	3,228	37.1	31.7	23.4	17.2
Already enrolled	269	.4	2.0	3.5	4.0
Unknown	220	1.4	1.8	1.9	1.8

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Table 14

INTEREST IN ENROLLING IN A HIGH SCHOOL
VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAM
-BY GRADES EARNED IN HIGH SCHOOL-

	Number of Responses	Mostly A	Mostly A & B	Mostly B	Mostly B & C	Mostly C	Mostly C & D	Mostly D	Mostly F
Yes	2,130	7.3%	11.9%	17.4%	23.0%	27.4%	30.8%	28.6%	27.4%
No	5,630	71.4	59.5	52.8	41.5	32.9	27.3	26.2	30.6
Undecided	3,228	19.7	26.1	26.6	30.9	33.5	34.2	33.3	32.3
Already enrolled	269	.7	1.4	1.5	3.0	3.6	5.2	5.6	1.6
Unknown	220	1.0	1.1	1.7	1.6	2.5	2.5	6.3	8.1

Table 15

VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAMS IN WHICH RESPONDENTS WOULD BE MOST LIKELY TO ENROLL WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL

	Number of Responses	Percent
Fashion merchandising	1,420	9.5%
Data processing/computer programming	1,170	7.8
Early childhood education	1,137	7.6
Auto mechanics	994	6.6
Office education (clerical, secretarial, etc.)	930	6.2
Marketing/distributive education	845	5.6
Cosmetology	831	5.5
Exploring health careers	699	4.7
Electronics	694	4.6
Word processing	560	3.7
Graphic arts (printing)	539	3.6
Auto body repair	512	3.4
Technical drafting	487	3.3
Nurse aide	424	2.8
Carpentry	413	2.8
Visual communications	413	2.8
Computer-aided drafting	406	2.7
Robotic and computer numerical control machining	301	2.0
Computer repair	300	2.0
Small engine repair	274	1.8
Food production	238	1.6
Consumer home economics	227	1.5
Welding	198	1.3
Apparel services	193	1.3
Machine shop and maintenance	138	.9
Agribusiness	130	.9
Energy technology	115	.8
Horticulture	111	.7
Plumbing	95	.6
Heating and air conditioning	66	.4
Residential electricity	65	.4
Biomedical equipment repair	51	.3
Total respondents selecting vocational/technical programs in which they would be most likely to enroll (maximum of three choices per respondent)	6,246	54.4%
No plans to enroll in a vocational/technical program	3,830	33.4
Unknown	1,401	12.2

Table 16

VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAMS IN WHICH RESPONDENTS WOULD BE MOST LIKELY TO ENROLL WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL
-BY SEX OF RESPONDENTS-

	Number of Responses	Males	Females
Fashion merchandising	1,400	1.5%	23.7%
Data processing/computer programming	1,147	11.0	9.5
Early childhood education	1,122	.9	19.3
Auto mechanics	963	15.6	1.6
Office education (clerical, secretarial)	918	2.5	14.0
Marketing/distributive education	827	7.4	7.3
Cosmetology	819	.5	14.2
Exploring health careers	692	3.8	8.6
Electronics	671	10.8	1.1
Word processing	548	3.5	6.3
Graphic arts (printing)	524	5.0	4.4
Auto body repair	496	8.5	.3
Technical drafting	480	7.3	1.2
Nurse aide	421	.5	7.0
Visual communications	406	3.5	3.8
Carpentry	402	6.9	.2
Computer-aided drafting	394	6.0	1.0
Robotic and computer numerical control machining	293	4.7	.5
Computer repair	291	4.6	.6
Small engine repair	267	4.4	.3
Food production	234	2.2	2.0
Consumer home economics	225	1.2	2.9
Welding	190	3.2	.2
Apparel services	190	.3	3.1
Machine shop and maintenance	136	2.3	.1
Agribusiness	126	1.7	.6
Energy technology	113	1.8	.2
Horticulture	110	1.3	.6
Plumbing	91	1.5	.1
Heating and air conditioning	65	1.1	.1
Residential electricity	65	1.1	.1
Biomedical equipment repair	46	.7	.2

NOTE: Percentages are not additive on multiple response questions.

Table 17

VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAMS IN WHICH RESPONDENTS
WOULD BE MOST LIKELY TO ENROLL WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL
-BY GRADE LEVEL-

	Number of Responses	Freshmen	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors
Fashion merchandising	1,420	16.3%	13.8%	10.0%	8.3%
Data processing/computer programming	1,169	11.4	10.8	9.3	8.9
Early childhood education	1,137	12.3	10.6	8.4	7.8
Auto mechanics	994	10.6	9.8	7.7	5.8
Office education (clerical, secretarial, etc.)	930	8.3	9.1	7.8	6.8
Marketing/distributive education	845	5.6	8.3	8.2	7.5
Cosmetology	831	8.9	8.8	5.9	4.7
Exploring health careers	699	6.4	7.1	5.6	5.0
Electronics	694	7.2	6.3	5.2	5.3
Word processing	559	4.9	5.2	4.2	5.2
Graphic arts (printing)	538	4.4	5.0	4.8	4.7
Auto body repair	512	5.4	5.0	4.1	2.9
Technical drafting	487	5.5	4.2	4.0	2.9
Nurse aide	424	4.7	3.6	3.3	3.0
Carpentry	413	4.4	3.6	3.5	2.7
Visual communications	413	3.2	3.3	3.9	4.1
Computer-aided drafting	405	4.3	3.1	3.4	3.3
Robotic and computer numerical control machining	300	3.6	2.7	1.9	2.1
Computer repair	300	3.0	2.5	2.7	2.2
Small engine repair	273	3.9	2.5	1.5	1.2
Food production	238	2.0	2.1	2.2	2.0
Consumer home economics	227	2.8	1.7	1.9	1.4
Welding	198	2.5	1.4	1.3	1.7
Apparel services	193	1.8	1.7	2.1	.9
Machine shop and maintenance	138	1.4	1.3	.9	1.2
Agribusiness	130	1.2	1.3	1.0	1.1
Energy technology	114	1.0	1.0	.9	1.1
Horticulture	111	.6	1.1	1.1	1.1
Plumbing	94	.6	.8	.8	1.1
Heating and air conditioning	66	.2	.6	.5	1.0
Residential electricity	65	.7	.3	.7	.6
Biomedical equipment repair	50	.4	.4	.4	.5
No plans to enroll	3,829	28.1%	30.9%	35.5%	41.5%

NOTE: Percentages are not additive on multiple response questions.

Table 18

VOCATIONAL/TECHNICAL PROGRAMS IN WHICH RESPONDENTS
WOULD BE MOST LIKELY TO ENROLL WHILE IN HIGH SCHOOL
-BY GRADES EARNED IN HIGH SCHOOL-

	Number of Responses	Mostly A	Mostly A & B	Mostly B	Mostly B & C	Mostly C	Mostly C & D	Mostly D	Mostly F
Fashion Merchandising	1,402	7.3%	12.4%	12.3%	14.4%	15.2%	11.9%	10.3%	1.6%
Data processing/computer programming	1,156	11.3	11.3	9.9	10.7	8.7	6.3	10.3	8.1
Early childhood education	1,122	6.6	10.4	9.8	11.0	10.6	10.2	11.1	1.6
Auto mechanics	973	3.2	4.3	6.7	10.6	12.7	20.3	22.2	21.0
Office education (clerical/secretarial)	916	6.0	7.5	9.1	10.2	8.0	6.4	6.3	1.6
Marketing/distributive education	833	7.0	8.0	8.6	7.6	6.9	5.3	2.4	0.0
Cosmetology	820	2.2	5.9	6.3	8.8	11.9	10.3	11.9	3.2
Exploring health careers	689	7.1	8.2	6.6	5.1	4.7	3.1	3.2	1.6
Electronics	677	5.1	5.0	5.7	6.5	8.1	7.1	5.6	8.1
Word processing	552	4.9	5.3	5.0	5.4	4.6	2.8	2.4	1.6
Graphic arts (printing)	530	2.9	4.0	4.5	5.7	6.0	5.2	6.3	1.6
Auto body repair	501	1.5	1.9	2.9	5.0	7.2	12.3	14.3	17.7
Technical drafting	480	4.0	4.1	4.2	4.4	5.1	4.1	4.8	0.0
Nurse aide	422	2.9	3.9	3.5	4.2	3.9	3.8	1.6	0.0
Visual communications	406	3.4	3.9	4.5	3.2	3.9	3.2	2.4	0.0
Carpentry	405	1.4	1.9	2.8	4.7	5.0	8.1	7.9	3.2
Computer aided drafting	398	3.4	3.6	3.2	3.8	3.7	3.1	3.2	3.2
Robotic and computer num. cont. mach.	294	2.9	2.0	2.6	2.6	2.9	3.6	3.2	4.8
Computer repair	293	1.4	1.8	2.9	3.0	4.0	3.0	4.0	11.3
Small engine repair	270	1.0	1.1	2.2	2.8	3.7	4.9	8.7	11.3
Food production	235	.5	1.4	1.9	2.6	3.8	3.0	4.8	1.6
Consumer home economics	223	1.3	2.2	1.7	2.3	2.0	1.8	1.6	0.0
Welding	192	.6	.7	1.1	1.9	3.3	4.1	5.6	6.5
Apparel services	191	1.1	1.9	1.3	1.8	1.9	2.2	0.0	0.0
Machine shop and maintenance	137	.6	.7	1.2	1.3	1.4	3.4	0.0	6.5
Agribusiness	125	.5	.8	.9	1.4	1.9	1.5	0.0	3.2
Energy technology	114	1.9	1.2	.5	.8	.6	1.1	2.4	0.0
Horticulture	109	.5	.9	.5	1.0	1.1	2.1	2.4	3.2
Plumbing	92	.6	.6	.8	.7	1.2	1.5	1.6	4.8
Heating and air conditioning	65	.4	.4	.2	.8	.9	.9	0.0	1.6
Residential electricity	65	0.0	.5	.5	.6	.9	1.1	2.4	0.0
Biomedical equipment repair	49	.6	.4	.5	.4	.4	.6	0.0	0.0
No plans to enroll in any voc./tech. program	3,776	52.0	40.4	37.7	26.7	21.0	17.7	18.3	24.2

NOTE: Percentages are not additive on multiple response questions.

SECTION IV

FUTURE PLANS

Table 19 Future Plans

Table 20 Future Plans--by Sex of Respondents

Table 21 Future Plans--by Grade Level

Table 22 Future Plans--by Grades Earned in High School

Table 23 Principal Activity First Year After High School--by School

Table 24 Educational Plans First Year After High School--by School

Table 25 Highest Level of Education Planned--by School

Table 26 General Occupational Fields Into Which Respondents Would Eventually Like to Build Careers

Table 27 General Occupational Fields Into Which Respondents Would Eventually Like to Build Careers--by Sex of Respondents

Future Plans

Future plans of survey respondents are detailed in Tables 19 through 27, including principal activity and educational plans for the first year after high school, highest level of education planned, and general occupational fields into which respondents would eventually like to build careers. Highlights were:

* Over 60 percent of all respondents planned to enroll in college full-time after high school, the same percentage as reported in 1983.

* Over 65 percent of all females planned to go on to school full-time after high school, up from 63.7 percent in 1983. Among males, 56.2 percent planned to go on to school full-time, down from 60 percent in 1983.

* The percent planning to go to school full-time declined with grades earned in high school, from a high of 85 percent earning A's to a low of 6.5 percent earning F's.

* The percent planning to go on to school full-time increased with grade level; nearly 70 percent of seniors planned to go on full-time (up from 64.6 percent in 1983) while only 54.7 percent of freshmen had such plans.

* Current high school students are educationally ambitious. Four out of five hope to attain a bachelor's degree or higher, with almost half hoping to earn a graduate degree.

* Schools with the highest percent of respondents planning to go on to college full-time after high school were Blue Valley North (76.2%),Shawnee Mission South (75.8%), and Shawnee Mission East (70.4%).These three schools also had the highest percent of respondents planning to earn a doctoral or professional degree of the 12 schools surveyed.

* Schools with the highest percent of respondents planning to go to work full-time were Gardner/Edgerton (11.9%), Shawnee Mission North (11.4%) and Spring Hill (11.4%).

* Nearly 13 percent of respondents indicated no plans to attend school the first year after high school, up from less than 10 percent in 1983.

* The most popular occupational field into which respondents would eventually like to build careers was business (25.0%). This held true regardless of sex.

* Education as a profession appealed to less than 5 percent of all respondents. Females were much more interested in education as a career than males (7.2% vs 1.5%).

Table 19

FUTURE PLANS

	Number of Responses	Percent
Principal activity the first year after high school		
Go to school full-time	6,897	60.1%
Unsure about future plans	1,299	11.3
Go to work full-time	818	7.1
Take time off before making plans	815	7.1
Enter the military	423	3.7
Care for a home/family	52	.5
Other	997	8.7
Unknown	176	1.5
Educational plans for first year after high school		
Begin working toward a degree	6,392	55.7%
Take a few job-related courses	1,989	17.3
No plans to attend school	1,476	12.9
Take a few courses for self-improvement	509	4.4
Begin a vocational/technical program	458	4.0
More than one response	298	2.6
Unknown	355	3.1
Highest level of education planned		
High school diploma	446	3.9%
Vocational certificate	314	2.7
Less than two years of college	357	3.1
Associate's degree	745	6.5
Bachelor's degree	4,103	35.7
Master's degree	2,847	24.8
Doctoral or professional degree	2,214	19.3
Unknown	451	3.9

Table 20

FUTURE PLANS
-BY SEX OF RESPONDENTS-

	Number of Responses	Males	Females
Principal activity the first year after high school			
Go to school full-time	6,897	56.2%	65.3%
Unsure about future plans	1,299	11.2	11.5
Go to work full-time	818	8.5	5.8
Take time off before making plans	815	8.2	5.9
Enter the military	423	6.4	.9
Care for a home/family	52	.2	.7
Other	997	8.2	9.0
Unknown	176	1.2	.8
Educational plans for first year after high school			
Begin working toward a degree	6,392	54.3%	58.4%
Take a few job-related courses	1,989	15.3	19.7
No plans to attend school	1,476	16.1	9.6
Take a few courses for self-improvement	509	4.4	4.5
Begin a vocational/technical program	458	5.0	2.9
Unknown	653	5.0	4.9
Highest level of education planned			
High school diploma	446	4.6%	3.0%
Vocational certificate	314	3.8	1.7
Less than two years of college	357	2.7	3.6
Associate's degree	745	5.4	7.9
Bachelor's degree	4,103	37.1	35.8
Master's degree	2,847	25.0	25.5
Doctoral or professional degree	2,214	19.0	20.0
Unknown	451	2.4	2.5

Table 21

FUTURE PLANS
-BY GRADE LEVEL-

	Number of Responses	Freshmen	Sophomores	Juniors	Seniors
Principal activity the first year after high school					
Go to school full-time	6,897	54.7%	56.9%	62.5%	69.4%
Unsure about future plans	1,299	14.7	13.7	10.9	4.1
Go to work full-time	818	5.7	6.9	6.7	10.1
Take time off before making plans	815	9.7	8.2	6.4	3.1
Enter the military	423	4.5	4.2	2.8	3.1
Care for a home/family	52	.8	.5	.3	.2
Other	997	8.3	8.8	9.2	8.4
Unknown	176	1.6	1.0	1.3	1.6
Educational plans for first year after high school					
Begin working toward a degree	6,392	53.1%	53.7%	55.7%	62.4%
Take a few job-related courses	1,989	18.1	18.2	18.3	14.1
No plans to attend school	1,476	14.5	14.4	11.5	10.4
Take a few courses for self-improvement	509	4.1	3.9	4.3	5.9
Begin a vocational/technical program	458	4.1	4.5	4.3	2.8
Unknown	653	6.2	5.2	6.0	4.4
Highest level of education planned					
High school diploma	446	4.7%	3.9%	3.5%	3.1%
Vocational certificate	314	2.1	3.3	3.0	2.4
Less than two years of college	357	3.3	3.5	3.0	2.5
Associate's degree	745	6.4	6.0	6.6	7.2
Bachelor's degree	4,103	33.6	36.4	38.1	35.2
Master's degree	2,847	23.3	23.5	24.9	28.7
Doctoral or professional degree	2,214	21.5	20.0	17.0	18.4
Unknown	451	5.0	3.3	3.8	2.6

Table 22

FUTURE PLANS
-BY GRADES EARNED IN HIGH SCHOOL-

	Number of Responses	Mostly A	Mostly A & B	Mostly B	Mostly B & C	Mostly C	Mostly C & D	Mostly D	Mostly F
Principal activity the first year after high school									
Go to school full-time	6,897	85.0%	76.9%	70.9%	51.6%	37.3%	22.3%	11.9%	6.5%
Unsure about future plans	1,299	4.4	7.9	9.7	13.8	16.7	19.7	22.2	12.9
Go to work full-time	818	1.6	2.7	3.5	8.9	13.7	19.0	20.6	21.0
Take time off before making plans	815	1.5	3.7	5.2	8.7	10.7	18.0	18.3	16.1
Enter the military	423	1.5	2.1	1.9	4.1	6.8	8.4	7.1	17.7
Care for a home/family	52	.1	.3	.2	.7	.3	1.1	3.2	1.6
Other	997	5.2	5.9	7.4	11.0	13.2	10.6	15.1	19.4
Unknown	176	.8	.7	1.2	1.1	1.2	.9	1.6	4.8
Educational plans for first year after high school									
Begin working toward a degree	6,392	80.4%	70.7%	64.4%	46.9%	36.6%	22.5%	20.6%	9.7%
Take a few job-related courses	1,989	9.5	14.8	17.7	22.3	20.9	18.4	11.9	4.8
No plans to attend school	1,476	3.4	5.2	6.8	15.1	21.5	36.3	49.2	67.7
Take a few courses for self-improvement	509	2.7	3.5	4.0	5.0	6.6	6.6	4.8	4.8
Begin a vocational/technical program	458	1.0	1.9	2.3	4.8	8.0	9.4	8.7	4.8
Unknown	653	3.0	3.9	4.8	5.8	6.4	6.8	4.8	8.1
Highest level of education planned									
High school diploma	446	1.1%	1.1%	1.3%	3.7%	5.2%	16.1%	18.3%	45.2%
Vocational certificate	314	.4	.6	.9	3.2	5.8	9.6	11.1	8.1
Less than two years of college	357	.3	1.1	1.4	3.9	5.9	10.2	8.7	6.5
Associate's degree	745	.7	3.1	4.9	10.0	11.5	12.1	11.1	3.2
Bachelor's degree	4,103	21.8	35.8	40.8	42.3	43.3	29.7	20.6	9.7
Master's degree	2,847	35.1	31.0	30.7	21.3	15.8	11.4	11.1	4.8
Doctoral or professional degree	2,214	39.1	26.0	18.1	13.0	8.8	6.8	10.3	12.9
Unknown	451	1.3	1.3	1.9	2.7	3.6	4.1	8.7	9.7

Table 23

PRINCIPAL ACTIVITY FIRST YEAR
AFTER HIGH SCHOOL--BY SCHOOL

	Number of Responses	School Full-time	Unsure	Work Full-time	Take Time Off	Enter Military	Care for Home/Family	Other/ Unknown
Blue Valley	397	65.0%	10.1%	6.8%	4.3%	3.0%	.5%	2.4%
Blue Valley North	701	76.2	7.8	2.3	4.7	1.6	.3	7.2
DeSoto	417	50.6	11.8	11.3	6.5	6.2	.5	13.2
Gardner/Edgerton	447	37.4	17.2	16.1	11.9	5.4	.9	11.2
Olathe North	1,216	50.8	13.8	9.0	9.0	5.8	.3	11.3
Olathe South	966	54.6	12.9	8.6	8.5	4.1	.7	10.6
SM East	1,222	70.4	9.9	3.4	5.3	2.5	.3	8.3
SM North	1,043	45.3	13.9	10.9	11.4	4.8	.8	12.9
SM Northwest	1,496	63.0	11.2	6.1	6.6	3.1	.4	9.7
SM South	1,522	75.8	7.2	3.5	3.7	1.9	.4	7.4
SM West	1,748	60.0	10.9	7.7	7.0	3.7	.3	10.4
Spring Hill	263	38.4	17.5	11.0	11.4	6.8	.8	14.0

Table 24

EDUCATIONAL PLANS FIRST YEAR
AFTER HIGH SCHOOL--BY SCHOOL

	Number of Responses	Degree Program	Job-Related Courses	No Plans for School	Self-Improvement	Voc/Tech. Program	Other/ Unknown
Blue Valley	397	58.7%	17.9%	9.8%	4.8%	2.3%	6.5%
Blue Valley North	701	64.9	16.4	4.6	4.1	2.0	8.0
DeSoto	417	52.0	17.3	17.7	5.0	4.1	3.8
Gardner/Edgerton	447	37.8	20.8	27.3	4.9	6.7	2.5
Olathe North	1,216	49.3	18.2	19.2	4.3	3.5	5.6
Olathe South	966	52.9	20.0	14.3	3.7	3.9	5.2
SM East	1,222	61.3	16.9	8.4	4.8	2.5	6.1
SM North	1,043	47.3	17.2	18.9	4.1	5.3	7.3
SM Northwest	1,496	58.4	16.6	10.8	4.3	5.2	4.7
SM South	1,522	65.7	16.0	5.2	4.5	2.4	6.2
SM West	1,748	55.6	16.9	13.1	4 6	5.6	4.2
Spring Hill	263	43.3	18.3	25.5	4.2	3.4	5.3

Table 25

HIGHEST LEVEL OF EDUCATION PLANNED
-BY SCHOOL-

	Number of Responses	H. S. Diploma	Voc. Cert.	Some College	Associate Degree	Bachelors Degree	Masters Degree	Doctoral Degree	Other/ Unknown
Blue Valley	397	3.5%	1.8%	2.5%	5.8%	36.3%	24.9%	19.1%	6.0%
Blue Valley North	701	1.1	.7	1.1	2.6	33.2	32.1	23.1	6.0
DeSoto	417	4.8	3.8	4.8	12.2	36.2	18.0	16.3	3.8
Gardner/Edgerton	447	8.3	9.4	8.5	13.6	32.2	15.9	8.5	3.6
Olathe North	1,216	5.2	2.5	4.7	9.4	34.4	21.5	19.4	3.0
Olathe South	966	4.0	2.3	4.1	8.8	36.9	21.6	18.8	3.4
SM East	1,222	2.3	1.1	1.6	2.9	34.5	29.5	23.9	4.3
SM North	1,043	6.6	4.3	4.4	8.3	36.2	19.0	15.1	5.9
SM Northwest	1,496	3.2	2.8	2.8	5.5	36.7	26.9	18.9	3.2
SM South	1,522	1.3	1.1	1.1	3.2	37.1	29.8	23.3	3.1
SM West	1.748	4.5	3.6	2.7	6.1	37.3	24.9	18.9	2.1
Spring Hill	263	8.4	4.2	4.2	12.2	33.5	20.9	10.6	6.1

Table 26

GENERAL OCCUPATIONAL FIELDS INTO WHICH RESPONDENTS
WOULD EVENTUALLY LIKE TO BUILD CAREERS

	Number of Responses	Percent
Business	2,864	25.0%
Engineering or Technology	1,133	9.9
Health Occupations	891	7.8
Fine or Performing Arts	831	7.2
Social or Human Services	776	6.8
Law or Justice System	761	6.6
Communications	628	5.5
Science Professions	504	4.4
Education	487	4.2
Military	340	3.0
Trade or Industrial Fields	261	2.3
Agriculture	127	1.1
Unknown	1,874	16.4

Table 27

GENERAL OCCUPATIONAL FIELDS INTO WHICH RESPONDENTS
WOULD EVENTUALLY LIKE TO BUILD CAREERS
-BY SEX OF RESPONDENTS-

	Number of Responses	Males	Females
Business	2,864	26.0%	24.4%
Engineering or Technology	1,133	17.5	2.2
Health Occupations	891	5.4	10.4
Fine or Performing Arts	831	5.7	8.8
Social or Human Services	776	2.3	11.4
Law or Justice System	761	6.6	6.8
Communications	628	3.5	7.6
Science Professions	504	5.6	3.2
Education	487	1.5	7.2
Military	340	5.2	.7
Trade or Industrial Fields	261	3.7	.8
Agriculture	127	1.8	.5
Unknown	1,874	15.3	16.1

SECTION V

COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY PREFERENCES

Table 28 College/University Preferences

Table 29 Characteristics Influencing College/University Choice

Table 30 JCCC as Preferred School to Attend First Year After High School

College and University Preferences

Table 28 provides a list of first and second choice colleges and universities respondents indicated an interest in attending after high school. The category "other colleges/universities" is a grouping of all individual schools or state systems in which less than 100 respondents expressed interest. Characteristics influencing these choices are detailed on Table 29. Preference for JCCC is broken down by individual high school in Table 30. Highlights of these findings were:

* Respondents overwhelmingly favored The University of Kansas for continuing their education after high school, with over half of those naming a specific school selecting KU (30.4% as their first choice and 23.7% as their second choice).

* Johnson County Community College was the first or second choice school for about 18 percent of respondents who named a specific school, making JCCC the second most popular choice.

* Schools in every state but Delaware were named as first choice, and schools in all 50 states were named as second choice by survey respondents.

* About half of survey respondents who named a specific school indicated a desire to attend school outside of Kansas (46.0% as their first choice and 52.3% as their second choice).

* Over 90 percent of respondents indicated those characteristics dealing with the education offered (quality of instruction, academic reputation, course or program offerings, preparation for a career or postgraduate training) were most influential when choosing a college or university.

* Practical career preparation was considered a major influence in selection of a college or university by nearly two-thirds of survey respondents.

* Nonacademic characteristics (location, size, athletic programs, social life, prestige, religious orientation) were consistently less influential than academic considerations.

* Only one of every three respondents considered low cost a major influence when selecting a college or university.

* Less than half of survey respondents considered availability of scholarships or financial aid a major influence in selecting a college or university.

Table 28

COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY PREFERENCES

	Number of Responses	Percent
First choice schools to attend after high school		
The University of Kansas	2,815	30.4%
Johnson County Community College	1,101	11.9
California Colleges/Universities	739	8.0
Kansas State University	564	6.1
Missouri Colleges/Universities	417	4.5
Texas Colleges/Universities	366	3.9
Arizona Colleges/Universities	267	2.9
Massachusetts Colleges/Universities	252	2.7
Colorado Colleges/Universities	216	2.3
Other Kansas Colleges/Universities	170	1.8
Oklahoma Colleges/Universities	167	1.8
Military Academies	151	1.6
Illinois Colleges/Universities	115	1.2
Pittsburg State University	114	1.2
Baker University	114	1.2
Florida Colleges/Universities	113	1.2
Emporia State University	103	1.1
North Carolina Colleges/Universities	103	1.1
Other Colleges/Universities	1,385	14.9
Second choice schools to attend after high school		
The University of Kansas	1,965	23.7%
Kansas State University	890	10.7
California Colleges/Universities	696	8.4
Johnson County Community College	527	6.4
Missouri Colleges/Universities	500	6.0
Texas Colleges/Universities	357	4.3
Arizona Colleges/Universities	256	3.1
Colorado Colleges/Universities	227	2.7
Massachusetts Colleges/Universities	207	2.5
Other Kansas Colleges/Universities	200	2.2
Oklahoma Colleges/Universities	159	1.9
Florida Colleges/Universities	154	1.9
Pittsburg State University	138	1.7
Emporia State University	124	1.5
Illinois Colleges/Universities	124	1.5
Baker University	112	1.4
New York Colleges/Universities	104	1.3
Other Colleges/Universities	1,550	18.7

NOTE: Above college/university preferences reflect responses from students naming specific schools only. Approximately 19 percent of students completing the survey did not name a first choice school, and 27.8 percent did not name a second choice school.

Table 29

CHARACTERISTICS INFLUENCING COLLEGE/UNIVERSITY CHOICE

	Number of Responses	Major Influence	Minor Influence	Not an Influence
High quality teaching	11,077	74.2%	21.3%	4.5%
Wide range of academic courses	11,060	71.6	23.5	4.8
Good academic reputation	11,066	70.5	24.1	5.3
Specialized courses or programs	11,065	66.3	28.1	5.6
Practical career preparation	11,045	65.1	28.7	6.2
Solid preparation for graduate or professional school	11,030	57.7	33.4	8.9
Availability of financial aid or scholarship	11,056	49.1	35.0	15.9
Good social life	11,091	45.2	44.8	10.1
Located in a desirable part of the country	11,059	41.6	43.7	14.7
Low cost	11,090	33.1	50.0	16.9
Large size with many different kinds of students	11,056	25.6	49.2	25.1
High social prestige	11,003	22.3	50.7	27.1
Opportunity to participate in varsity athletics	11,053	20.3	30.3	49.4
Small size and friendly atmosphere	11,061	17.8	43.9	38.3
Located near home	11,073	17.2	41.1	41.7
Religious orientation	11,060	7.1	23.9	69.0

Table 30

JCCC AS PREFERRED SCHOOL TO ATTEND
FIRST YEAR AFTER HIGH SCHOOL

	First Choice		Second Choice	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Blue Valley	37	12.7%	17	6.5%
Blue Valley North	28	5.3	17	3.6
DeSoto	83	24.3	29	9.6
Gardner/Edgerton	85	25.3	43	15.1
Olathe North	162	16.9	70	8.3
Olathe South	125	16.4	52	7.9
SM East	41	4.4	19	2.2
SM North	136	18.0	62	9.3
SM Northwest	136	11.5	61	5.8
SM South	54	4.3	35	3.1
SM West	163	11.9	98	8.1
Spring Hill	51	25.4	23	13.5
Totals	1,101	11.9%	527	6.4%

NOTE: Percentages are based on the number from each school indicating a preference; nonrespondents are not included.

APPENDIX

Career and Educational Interest Survey
of Johnson County High School Students
Spring 1987

CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL
INTEREST SURVEY OF
JOHNSON COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS
SPRING 1987

Dear Student:

The following questions concern your career and educational interests and plans. Your responses will help school officials plan to meet your needs. All individual responses will be kept strictly confidential.

Your cooperation in providing thoughtful and serious answers will help both you and the students who follow you. Thank you for your cooperation.

HIGH SCHOOL INFORMATION

1. What high school do you attend?

____1. Blue Valley	____5. Olathe North	____9. Shawnee Mission NW
____2. Blue Valley North	____6. Olathe South	____10. Shawnee Mission South
____3. DeSoto	____7. Shawnee Mission East	____11. Shawnee Mission West
____4. Gardner-Edgerton	____8. Shawnee Mission North	____12. Spring Hill

2. What is your current grade level?

____1. freshman
____2. sophomore
____3. junior
____4. senior

3. How would you describe your individual program of study during high school?

____1. to prepare for college
____2. to prepare for a specific job
____3. to get a general education to prepare for life
____4. other (please specify)

_____

4. How well do you feel your high school is preparing you for your future?

____1. Very well
____2. More than adequately
____3. Adequately
____4. Less than adequately
____5. Very poorly

Comments about high school preparation: _____

_____

5. Do you feel you need more help in any of the following areas?
(Check either "yes" or "no" for each)

	YES	NO
A. Expressing ideas in writing	___	___
B. Increasing reading speed and improving reading comprehension	___	___
C. Improving mathematics skills	___	___
D. Developing effective learning strategies (note-taking, study skills and habits, test-taking)	___	___
E. Selecting a career or college major	___	___
F. Securing scholarships or financial aid for additional schooling	___	___
G. Developing job-hunting and interviewing skills	___	___
H. Gaining practical work experience in your career field	___	___
I. Other (please specify)		

_____

6. Would you be interested in enrolling in a vocational or technical program in high school that prepares you for a specific job immediately after graduation?

_____1. Yes
_____2. No
_____3. Undecided

_____4. Already enrolled
In which program are you enrolled?_____(skip to question #9)

7. In which of the following vocational/technical programs would you be most likely to enroll while in high school? (Check **no more than** three)

_____01. Agribusiness supplies and services
_____02. Horticulture
_____03. Exploring health careers
_____04. Nurse aide
_____05. Early childhood education
_____06. Consumer home economics
_____07. Food production
_____08. Apparel services
_____09. Fashion merchandising
_____10. Marketing/distributive education
_____11. Office education (clerical, secretarial, etc.)
_____12. Word processing
_____13. Data processing/computer programming
_____14. Computer repair
_____15. Electronics
_____16. Robotic and computer numerical control machining
_____17. Small engine repair
_____18. Auto body repair
_____19. Auto mechanics
_____20. Biomedical equipment repair
_____21. Machine shop and maintenance
_____22. Carpentry
_____23. Plumbing
_____24. Residential electricity
_____25. Energy technology
_____26. Heating and air conditioning
_____27. Welding
_____28. Graphic arts (printing)
_____29. Technical drafting
_____30. Computer aided drafting
_____31. Visual communications
_____32. Cosmetology

_____99. I do not plan to enroll in a vocational/technical program

8. Other vocational/technical programs **not listed in question #7** in which you would be interested in enrolling:

_____ _____

9. In what areas would you like to build some practical arts skills while still in high school? (Name specific classes in areas like home economics, industrial arts, or business. Examples: sewing, woodworking, typing, etc.)

_____ _____

FUTURE CAREER AND EDUCATIONAL PLANS

10. What do you plan to do (your **principal** activity) the first year after high school? (Check only one)

_____1. go to school full-time
_____2. go to work full-time
_____3. enter the military
_____4. care for a home/family
_____5. take some time off before making plans
_____6. unsure about my future plans
_____7. Other (please specify)_____

11. In which general occupational field would you like to eventually build your career? **(Check only one)**

_____1. Agriculture
_____2. Business
_____3. Communications
_____4. Education
_____5. Engineering or technical
_____6. Fine/performing arts
_____7. Health occupations
_____8. Law/justice system
_____9. Military
____10. Science professions
____11. Social or human services
____12. Trade or industrial fields

Other (please specify)_____

12. Which of the following **best** describes your educational plans for the first year after high school.

_____1. Take a few job-related courses
_____2. Take a few courses for self-improvement
_____3. Begin a vocational/technical program
_____4. Begin working toward a degree
_____5. No plans to attend school the first year after high school

13. If you decide to go on to school after high school, which schools would be your first and second choice to attend?

1. _____
2. _____

14. When selecting a school, how much do each of the following characteristics influence your choice? (Circle the number under the response which most closely reflects your answer)

	Major Influence	Minor Influence	Not an Influence
A. Low cost	3	2	1
B. Good social life	3	2	1
C. High social prestige	3	2	1
D. Religious orientation	3	2	1
E. Located near home	3	2	1
F. Located in a desirable part of the country	3	2	1
G. Availability of financial aid or scholarship	3	2	1
H. Opportunity to participate in varsity athletics	3	2	1
I. Small size and friendly atmosphere	3	2	1
J. Large size with many different kinds of students	3	2	1
K. High quality teaching	3	2	1
L. Good academic reputation	3	2	1
M. Wide range of academic courses	3	2	1
N. Practical job training or career preparation	3	2	1
O. Specialized courses or programs	3	2	1
P. Solid preparation for graduate or professional school	3	2	1

15. What is the highest level of education you hope to attain? (check only one)

____High school diploma
____Vocational certificate
____Less than 2 years of college
____Associate's degree (2-year)
____Bachelor's degree (4-year)
____Master's degree
____Doctoral or professional degree

GENERAL INFORMATION

16. What grades have you earned in high school?

____Mostly A's ____Mostly B's ____Mostly C's ____Mostly D's
____Mostly A's and B's ____Mostly B's and C's ____Mostly C's and D's ____Mostly F's

17. Have you worked at a part-time job while in high school?

____No
____Yes Where?_____ Average hours per week_____

18. What is your sex?

____1. female
____2. male

19. What is the ZIP code for your home address?

_____

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

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